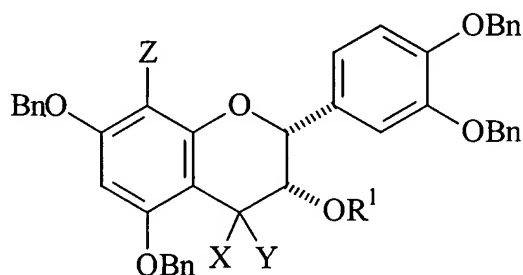


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-21 (canceled)

Claim 22. (currently amended) A compound ~~[[of]]~~ having the formula:



wherein R¹ is a silyl protecting group or a benzyl protecting group, wherein X and Y are independently hydrogen or hydroxy ~~or X and Y together are oxygen~~, and wherein Z is hydrogen ~~[[or a halogen]]~~.

Claims 23-24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (currently amended) The compound of Claim 22, wherein R¹ is the silyl protecting group~~[[,]] wherein X and Y are independently hydrogen or hydroxy[[,]] and wherein the halogen is bromine.~~

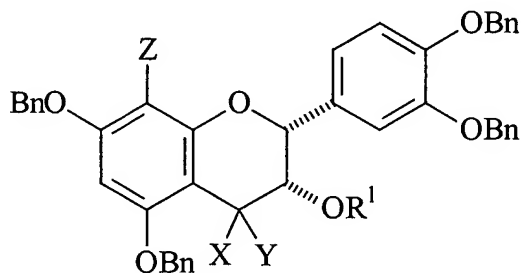
Claim 26 (currently amended) The compound of Claim 25, wherein the silyl group is a *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl group ~~and the halogen is bromine.~~

Claim 27 (currently amended) The compound of Claim 22, wherein R¹ is the benzyl protecting group~~[[,]] wherein X and Y are independently hydrogen or hydroxy[[,]] and wherein the halogen is bromine.~~

Claim 28-30 (canceled)

Claim 31 (new) The compound of Claim 22, which is 3, 5, 7, 3', 4'-penta-O-benzyl-4-hydroxyepicatechin or 5, 7, 3', 4'-tetra-O-benzyl-3-O-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-4-hydroxyepicatechin.

Claim 32 (new) A compound having the formula:



wherein R¹ is a silyl protecting group or a benzyl protecting group, wherein X and Y together are oxygen, and wherein Z is hydrogen.

Claim 33 (new) The compound of Claim 32, wherein R¹ is the silyl protecting group.

Claim 34 (new) The compound of Claim 33, wherein the silyl group is a *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl group.

Claim 35 (new) The compound of Claim 32, wherein R¹ is the benzyl protecting group.

Claim 36 (new) The compound of Claim 32, which is (2R, 3S)-3, 5, 7, 3', 4'-pentakis-(benzyloxy) flavan-4-one or (2R,3S)-5, 7, 3', 4'-tetra-O-benzyl-3-O-[(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl) oxy]flavan-4-one.